

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q74947

Yasuhide ODASHIMA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/550,270

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Confirmation No.: 3137

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: September 23, 2005

For: HORIZONTALLY CONTINUOUSLY CAST ROD OF ALUMINUM ALLOY AND
METHOD AND EQUIPMENT FOR PRODUCING THE ROD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

Also, submitted herewith are copies of the three documents JP-A-64-39339, JP-A-63-104751, and JP-A-59-193238, previously listed in the PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form filed with the Information Disclosure Statement of September 23, 2005 and cited in the International

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Search Report submitted on September 23, 2005. Since these three documents were previously listed, they are not listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under § 1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from the German Patent Office in a corresponding German patent application citing such documents, together with an English-language version of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the German Patent Office.

Further, in compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations: English language abstracts, submitted herewith, constitute concise statements of relevance for JP-A-64-39339, JP-A-63-104751, JP-A-59-193238, JP-A-62-89551, and JP-A-1-104741.

Also, a partial English language translation, submitted herewith, constitutes a concise statement of relevance for the non patent literature document "Ultrasonic Technology Handbook", which is also cited on page 3 in the specification of the above-identified application.

Further, JP-A-63-104751 and JP-A-62-89551 are cited on page 2 in the specification of the above-identified application.

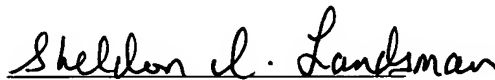
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Additionally, the listed U.S. Patent No. 5,358,028 corresponds to the listed EP 0577232.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: July 6, 2006

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT***(use as many sheets as necessary)**Complete if Known*

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/550,270
				Confirmation Number	3137
				Filing Date	September 23, 2005
				First Named Inventor	Yasuhide ODASHIMA
				Art Unit	Unknown
				Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q74947

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 5,358,028	A	10-25-1994	F. KEUTGEN, et al.
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	62-89551	A	04-24-1987	SHOWA ALUM IND KK	Abstract
		EP	0577232	A1	01-05-1994	MANNESMANN Aktiengesellschaft	
		JP	1-104741	A	04-21-1989	KOBE STEEL LTD	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		"Ultrasonic Technology Handbook", The Nikkan Kogyo Shimbun, Ltd., December 30, 1985, pp. 721-737	Partial

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.